

## Minutes of the Public Works Committee - April 29, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Manke.

**Present:** Chair Richard Manke, County Board Supervisors James Behrend, Hank Carlson, Peter Gundrum, Karl Nilson, Rodell Singert, David Swan

**Staff Present:** County Board Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Legis. Associate Sandra Meisenheimer

**Also Present:** County Board Chairman Jim Dwyer, Senior Civil Engineer Karen Braun

### Correspondence

1. Transportation news from Mead & Hunt regarding "Roundabouts to the rescue."
2. City of Pewaukee Resolution dated 4/19/04 asking the legislature to refrain from imposing a "Taxpayers Bill of Rights" (TABOR).

### Committee Welcome and Introductory Remarks by Co. Board Chairman Jim Dwyer

Dwyer thanked the committee members for accepting their assignments. He stated all of you have your No. 1 choice for a committee. There were 20 supervisors who requested to be on the Public Works Committee so all of you should be happy. If you cannot attend a meeting or will be late, please contact Chair Manke or the County Board Office. Dwyer looks forward to a very successful two years and wishes everyone well. Please see him with any questions or concerns, and he will assist in expediting a solution.

### Nomination and Election of Committee Vice-Chair and Secretary

**Motion:** Nilson moved, second by Carlson, to nominate Supervisor Swan as Vice-Chair of the committee.

**Motion carried 7 – 0.** Swan accepted the nomination. **Motion:** Carlson moved, second by Behrend, to approve Supervisor Swan as Vice-Chair. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

**Motion:** Nilson moved, second by Behrend, to nominate Supervisor Singert as Secretary of the committee.

**Motion carried 7 – 0.** Singert accepted the nomination. **Motion:** Nilson moved, second by Carlson, to approve Supervisor Singert as Secretary. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

### Discuss Committee Duties and Responsibilities as Contained in the Code of Ordinances

Esler reviewed committee duties and responsibilities as detailed in the handout, which include oversight of the Department of Public Works, Airport Commission, Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, as well as acting as the county highway committee. He said the committee should meet at various buildings such as the Highway Shop, Northview, Human Services Center, Mental Health Center, etc. to fill the requirement (#7) in the code.

### Verbal Report from Committee Member Attending Airport Commission Meeting

Singert reported on the public information workshop held on April 28 at the Expo Center. There were about 35 people who attended the 1½ hour meeting and five supervisors were in attendance (Paulson, Kallin, Griffin, Singert). Singert said the airport project engineer is Michael Hall from Mead & Hunt. He is in charge of the public hearings. Singert said the public is still thinking that this environmental assessment is for lengthening the runway, but it is not. The environmental study is on the east/west 10/28 only. He thought it went well and that questions from the public were answered.

Singert said he pointed out to the consultant that this committee should have received a post card of the public hearing so they would have had an opportunity to listen to the people.

### Consider Proposed Ordinance: 159-O-004 Order to Convey Title to Highway Right of Way to the State of Wisconsin – Project FI 056-1(8) Parcel 4, CTH "DR", Town of Summit

Braun said back in the 1950's and up to the 1960's the State DOT did not normally purchase their own right

of ways for highway projects. They utilized the counties in buying right of ways with State funds and then at some point would plan to get the right of ways back. Braun said she has a file folder full of these and all are handled by quit claim at no charge. Parcel 4, as well as 5, 9 and 13, were bought in the 1950's.

There was a discussion on the park and ride lot in the area. Swan asked if it would be moved. Braun said it may but we have no control over that. Esler said maybe they are considering something different because of all of the development and the probability of some commute going on there. Braun said she will contact the State regarding this issue as well as future plans and report back to the committee.

**Motion:** Behrend moved, second by Singert, to approve Ordinance 159-O-004. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

**Consider Proposed Ordinance: 159-O-005 Order to Convey Title to Highway Right of Way to the State of Wisconsin – Project FI 056-1(8) Parcel 5, CTH “DR”, Town of Summit**

Braun reviewed the location of Parcel 5. **Motion:** Behrend moved, second by Nilson, to approve Ordinance 159-O-005. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

**Consider Proposed Ordinance: 159-O-006 Order to Convey Title to Highway Right of Way to the State of Wisconsin – Project FI 056-1(8) Parcel 9, CTH “DR”, Town of Summit**

Braun pointed out the location of Parcel 9. **Motion:** Behrend moved, second by Singert, to approve Ordinance 159-O-006. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

**Consider Proposed Ordinance: 159-O-007 Order to Convey Title to Highway Right of Way to the State of Wisconsin – Project FI 056-1(8) Parcel 13, CTH “DR”, Town of Summit**

Braun discussed the location of Parcel 13. **Motion:** Behrend moved, second by Swan, to approve Ordinance 159-O-007. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

**Correspondence/Future Agenda Items**

1. Article from the Waukesha County Freeman on 4/28/04 entitled, “RFG gas solution wrongly stalled in Senate.” (Singert)
2. Discuss the Waukesha by-pass.
3. Update on the Airport.
4. E-mail from Executive Finley regarding the appointments to the Airport Commission and Lake District Boards. Singert said he was looking for a copy of it because he doesn't have a computer. He also was wondering why he didn't get a phone call. Esler said for those supervisors who do not have computers, they can establish themselves with a county e-mail address and then use a computer in the County Board Offices.

**Discuss Structure and Funding of Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission (WRRTC)**

Nilson gave a brief background on the structure of WRRTC. He stated there is about \$30,000 in our account for rehab projects. What we need today is to give permission to use what is in our fund for this year's rehab projects. Next year a similar amount will be requested of up to \$30,000 to stay in the Commission and to continue participating. A long discussion by the committee continued.

**Motion:** Behrend moved, second by Carlson, to request the Executive Committee to direct Lee Esler to write an ordinance to amend the 2004 budget to authorize using \$26,300 and to delete the wording “contingent upon the 14 current participating counties.” Esler stated by eliminating the contingency, the policy is established to fund this from now until 2013.

Manke said at Monday's meeting he will give the Executive Committee the 2-page draft memo from WRRTC and advise of the Public Works Committee's wishes. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

**Discuss the Waukesha County Jurisdictional Highway System Plan and Status of the SEWRPC Jurisdictional Planning Committee**

Esler stated the jurisdictional plan is one of the base planning documents for this committee as it pertains to highways. The street and highway width map also is to a lesser degree. This is timely because there is a yellow-copied ordinance regarding the transfer of Hampton Ave. to the Village of Butler. Director Bolte was not able to appear today so the ordinance will be taken up at the next committee meeting. Esler said it appears that Hampton Ave. is a road that fell through the cracks of the jurisdictional plan in that it appears to have been a village road for many years, but it is in the jurisdictional plan as being a county highway.

Esler stated the jurisdictional plan basically does two things. It folds into the larger regional transportation plan, and it is also followed as the baseline for the capital projects plan regarding the building of new roads, such as Moorland Road or KE in Hartland. One of the things the plan is silent on is the larger question, “when are we to do these transfers and improvements and what is the arrangement for the transfers?” The statutes now say it has to be a reciprocal agreement between one entity and another. As a basic planning document the jurisdictional plan, even through its three major changes adopted by the board, and the regional plan have pretty much stayed consistent from a transportation planning standpoint over the 30 years that they have been adopted. The implementation, however, has been painfully slow.

Nilson asked have transfers ever been made and then reversed? Esler said no. Nilson asked what is going on with the Marquette interchange? Esler said we know that the State intends to construct it next year and the year that follows. The State intends to go hand to mouth to borrow for it, which is the way the State handles its budget shortfalls in regards to transportation. Also, Esler said he would like to agendize the man who was at the winter highway conference who spoke on the long term prospects of funding state and local highways.

Esler referred to Page 8 of the preliminary draft Amendment to the Waukesha County Jurisdictional Highway System Plan—2020 and said the third bullet is about CTH Q between Colgate Road and CTH V. Waukesha County is currently improving Q east of V from a two to four lane highway. There is an agreement between Washington and Waukesha Counties regarding this.

Nilson asked how much of our county highway projects are driven by cost sharing with the State? How dependent are we on the State standing up for their obligations or are we stand alone? Esler said the State now has a cost sharing policy that they will not budge from. If you want it, you’re going to pay your 20% or they’ll pick up their marbles and spend their money elsewhere.

**Motion to adjourn:** Behrend moved, second by Singert, to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodell L. Singert  
Secretary

/sm